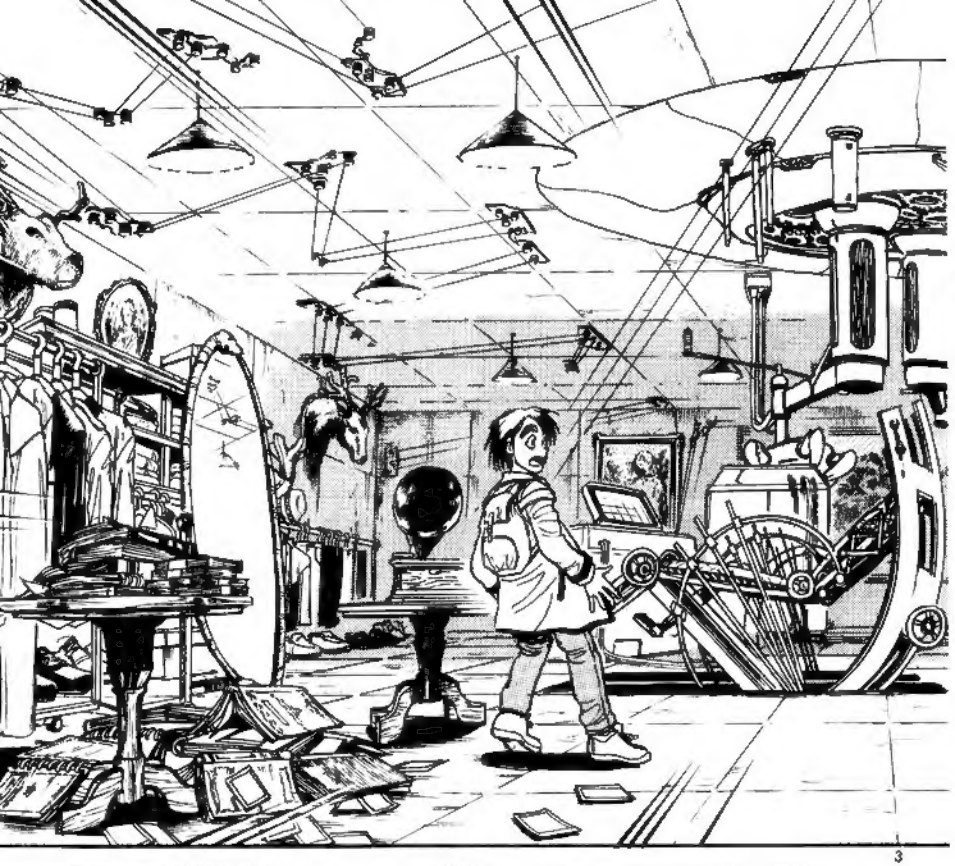
ACT 4
DOWNLOAD
I... LEFT THE INHERI-TANCE TO MYSELF ...?
I'M... MY DAD ...?
I, SAIGA SADAYOSHI, TRANSFERRED ALL OF MY MEMORIES, PERSONALITY, AND ACCU-MULATED KNOWLEDGE ...
INTO THE BRAIN OF AN 11-YEAR-OLD CHILD. IN OTHER WORDS...
10


SAIGA SADAYOSHI WAS DOWN-LOADED ...
AND BECAME SAIGA MASARU!!

3

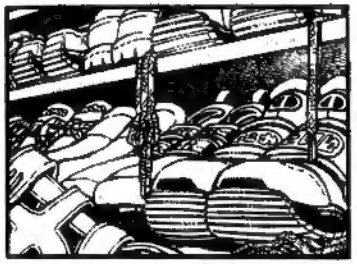
ALL OF IT PART OF A PLAN TO ACHIEVE ONE SINGLE OBJECTIVE.

BUT TAKE A LOOK AROUND. IF YOU STILL DO NOT REMEMBER, THEN HOW ELSE CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE FACT THAT EVERYTHING IN THIS ROOM WAS INTENDED FOR YOUR USE?

I'M SURE THAT YOU STILL THINK OF YOURSELF AS SAIGA MASARU.

2

EXACTLY MY SIZE ...
THESE ARE ALL...



I DON'T REMEMBER MY DAD'S MEMORIES TAKING OVER OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!

BUT ... *I'M ME ...!*

SHIROGANE...? WHAT DOES SHE HAVE TO DO WITH THIS? THAT'S WHY MY DAD BECAME ME...?!

SO THAT THAT KNOWLEDGE MAY SERVE AS ANOTHER STIMULUS TO FULLY AWAKEN MY MEMORIES WITHIN MASARU.

LET ME SHOW YOU THE DEVICES AND PROCESS I WILL USE FOR THE **DOWN-LOAD**...

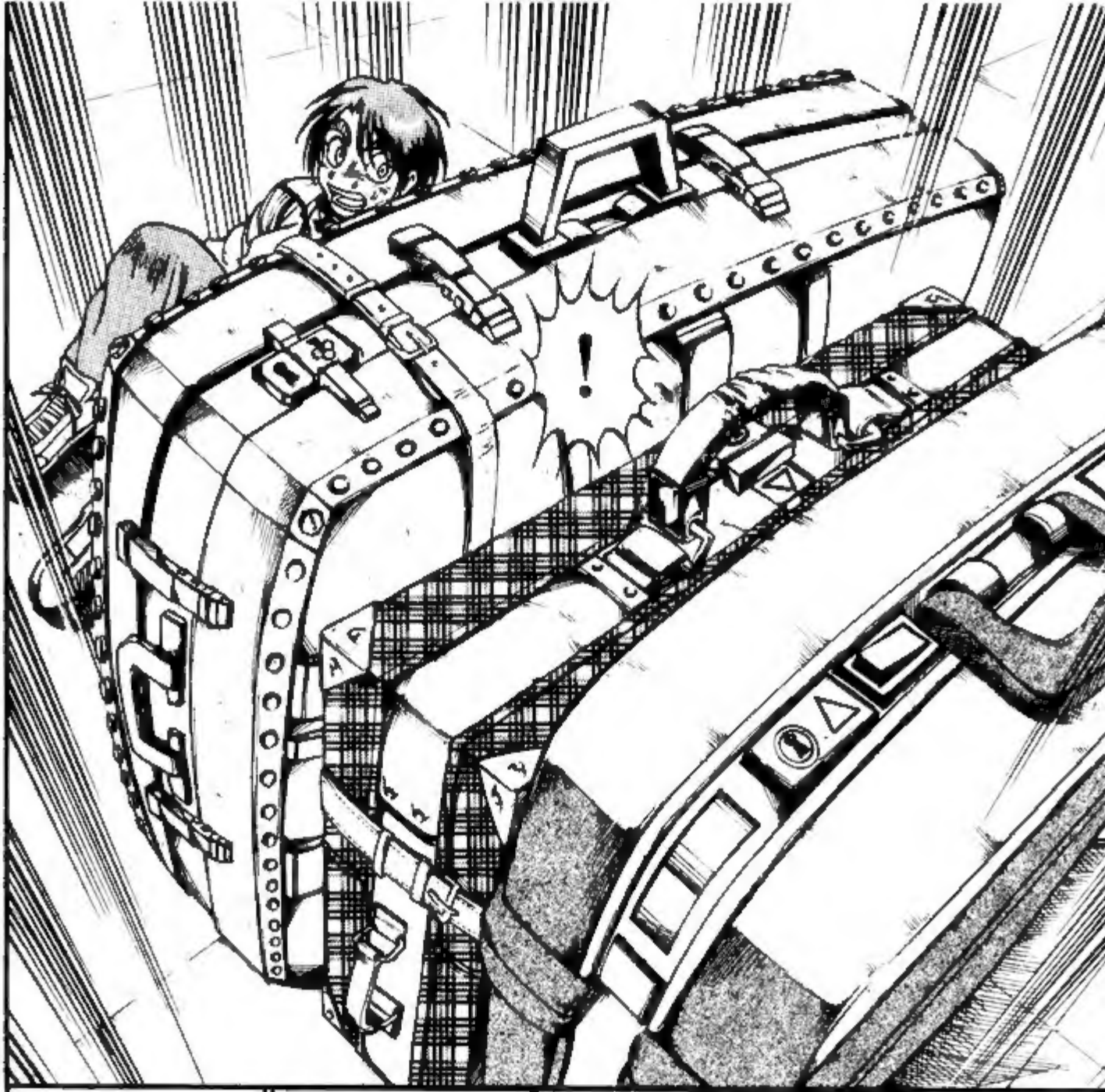
USED TO READ THE EXCHANGE OF INFOR-MATION BETWEEN THE TWO HEMISPHERES OF THE BRAIN, IN THE CORPUS CALLOSUM OF THE CONSCIOUSNESS BEING DOWNLOADED... MINE, IN OTHER WORDS.

THE OBJECT BEHIND ONE OF THOSE CHAIRS IS A SCANNING MACHINE ...

ADDING THE INFORMATIONAL IMPULSES FROM THIS INVESTIGATIVE MACHINE WILL CREATE A PERFECT COMPILATION OF DATA REPRESENTING MY MIND AND SPIRIT.

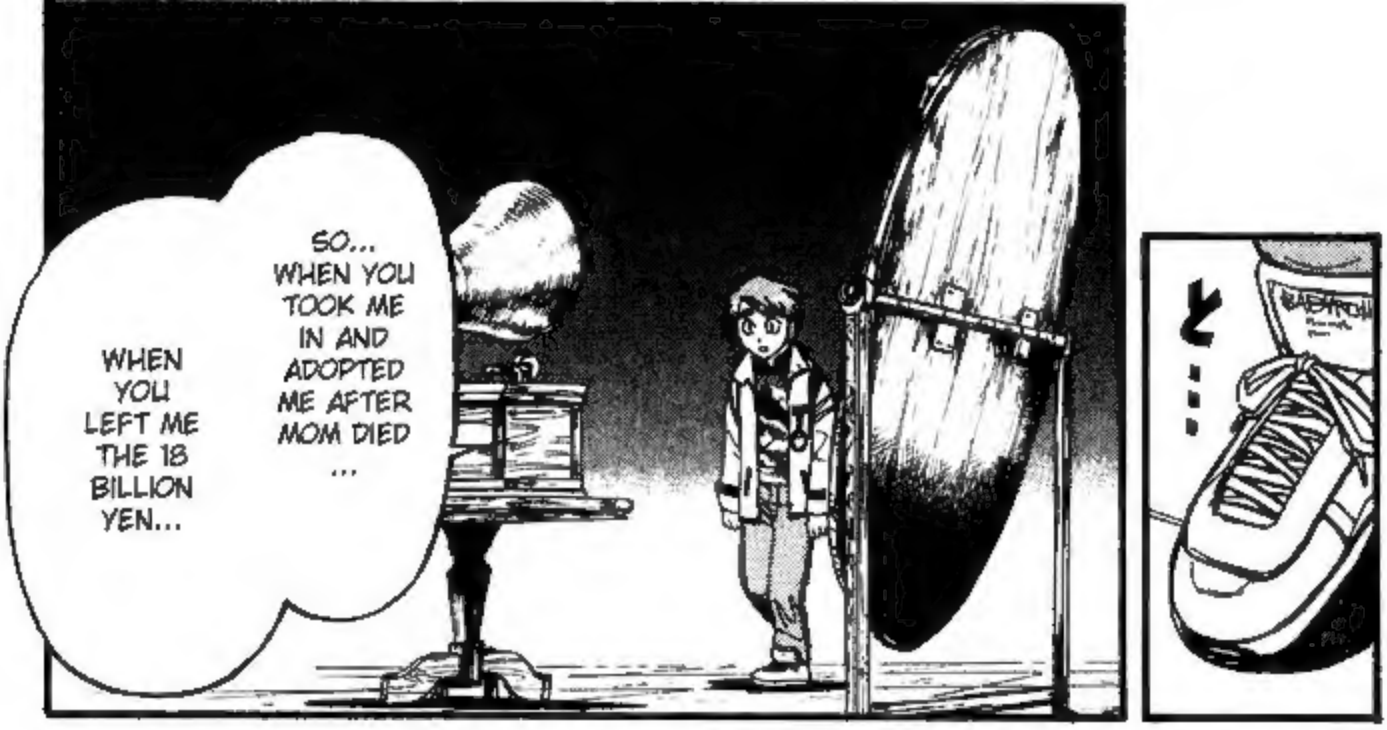
NEXT TO THE OTHER CHAIR IS A COMPUTER THAT CONTAINS A PROGRAM BASED ON ALL ASPECTS OF MY DAILY LIFE... DATA RECORDED ON MY SPEECH, MY CONDUCT, MY BRAIN WAVES, AND MY NERVOUS ACTIVITY OVER THE COURSE OF 50 YEARS.

AND SEARED INTO IT.
THAT DATA WILL BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH A CABLE ATTACHED TO A BIOCHIP SURGICALLY INSERTED INTO MASARU'S BRAIN...
ONCE IT IS EXCRETED, NO TRACE WILL REMAIN OF THE DOWNLOAD IN MASARU'S BODY.
STAGGER
THE CHIP WILL BEGIN TO DISSOLVE AFTER THE SURGERY IS COMPLETE.
YOU'RE LYING!
NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT THAT I HAVE BEGUN A SECOND LIFE IN THE BODY OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOY BY THE NAME OF MASARU.
5
...OUCH...
...!
IT'S NOT TRUE !!
IT CAN'T BE TRUE ...!!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!


!

THEY WERE DEVELOPED THROUGH THE SAIGA FAMILY'S RESEARCH. THEY ARE FAR MORE USEFUL THAN ANY MARIONETTE.
THEIR RINGS SHOULD FIT YOU PERFECTLY AS WELL.

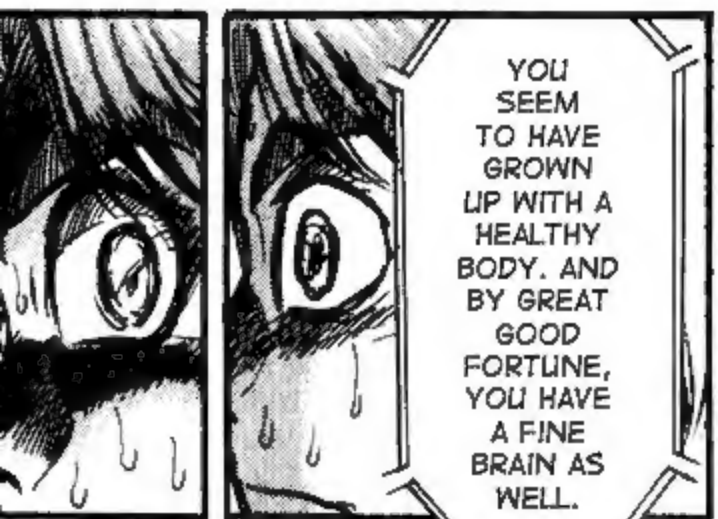
...AH, YES. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, I HAVE ALSO PREPARED THESE PUP-PETS THAT CAN BE CONTROLLED OVER A DISTANCE BY STRINGS.


SO... WHEN YOU TOOK ME IN AND ADOPTED ME AFTER MOM DIED ...
WHEN YOU LEFT ME THE 18 BILLION YEN...
と...

I THOUGHT YOU WERE INTERESTED IN KNOWING ALL ABOUT ME...
BUT EVEN THAT ...
AT WHAT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ARE YOU WEAKEST?
ARE YOU PRONE TO ILLNESS?
AND WHEN WE FIRST MET...

7

AT THIS MOMENT, MASARU...


YOU SEEM TO HAVE GROWN UP WITH A HEALTHY BODY. AND BY GREAT GOOD FORTUNE, YOU HAVE A FINE BRAIN AS WELL.

ALL OF IT... ALL OF IT WAS... SO YOU COULD TAKE OVER MY BODY?

YOUR DAD ...
IS SO PROUD OF YOU.

WHO AM I?!
AAAAAGH!!

GAVE HIM SOME KEYS AND A LETTER. HE PROBABLY HEADED FOR THE MANSION GROUNDS ...
YEP ...

UH-HUH... THAT'S RIGHT. TH' NAME HE GAVE WAS MASARU, ALL RIGHT.

I'M HAPPY TO BE OF ANY HELP.
THE OLD MASTER ALWAYS DID RIGHT BY MY PA 'N ME...
NO, NO TROUBLE AT ALL.

9

LOOK THROUGH THIS ROOM NOW AND REMEMBER. LOOK AT THE TOOLS I USED, AND MY PERSONAL EFFECTS, AND REMEMBER.

RE-
MEM-
BER.
I'M...
ME...
RE-
MEMBER
BEING
SAIGA
SADA-
YOSHI.
RE-
MEM-
BER.
RE-
MEM-
BER.
RE-
MEM-
BER.
RE-
MEM-
BER.
RE-
MEM-
BER.

HAH
HAH

FEBRUARY
16TH
TUESDAY

I'M
NOT MY
DAD!!

ヒョオオオ

SAIGA SADA-YOSHI.
SO YOU'VE HAD THE NERVE TO GO THIS FAR TO TRANSFORM YOURSELF ...

UH... WHO ...?

AFTER OBTAINING THE BODY OF SAIGA MASARU... IT'S JUST AS SHOUJI-SAMA TOLD US.
THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOU SURVIVED THAT INCI-DENT, AND WOULD SHOW UP HERE...

!
NO... WAIT A SECOND, I...!!

D-DID YOU SAY SHOU-JI-SAMA ...?
YOU MEAN GRAND-PA?!

BUT WE ALREADY KNOW THAT YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS HAS BEEN DOWNLOADED INTO THAT KID'S BRAIN.
HMPH. YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT ACTING LIKE A KID.

WHO... WHO ARE YOU GUYS?

WHAT REASON WOULD A NORMAL CHILD HAVE TO COME HERE?!
SHUT UP! IF IT HASN'T, THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE! I—

YOUR STARTING POINT.
YOU SHOULD HEAD FOR...
I... BE-CAUSE... GUY-SAN...

YOU MAY HAVE SURVIVED ON THE HIGHWAY ...
BUT THIS IS ABOUT TO BECOME YOUR FINAL RESTING PLACE.

ENOUGH EXCUSES.
TOO BAD FOR YOU, SADAYO-SHI.

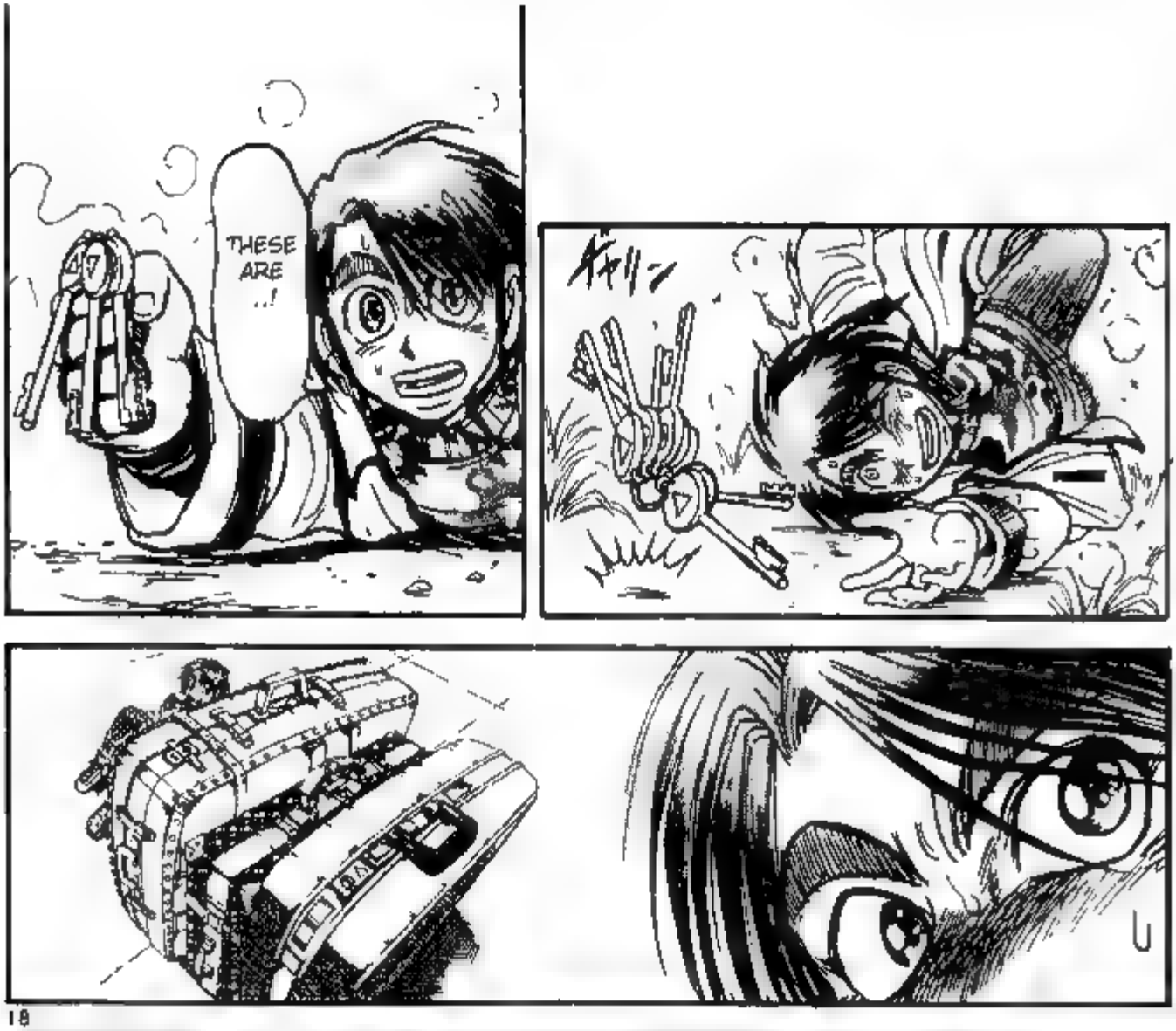
ボチョン

AH...
AH...!

16

TRUCK- KUROGA PUP-

I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY!
IF YOU LOSE YOUR FATHER, AND ANY-THING ODD HAPPENS; RUN AWAY AT ONCE.
WAIT! YOU'RE WRONG! GRANDPA WOULD NEVER WANT ME TO...!


THESE ARE ..!
ガリン

SO YOU'RE GOING TO RUN AWAY, SADA-YOSHI?!

Ending Bonus

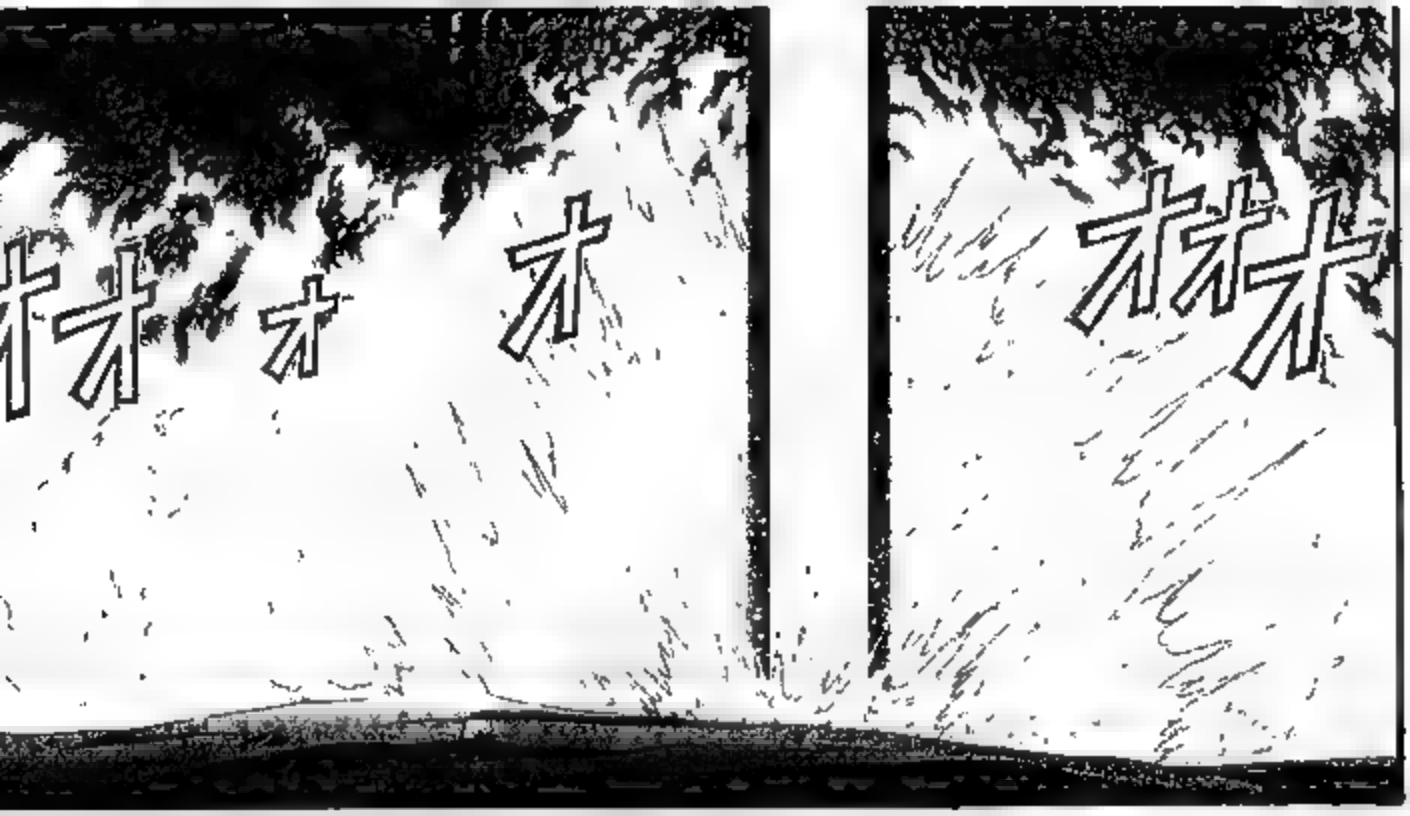
KARAKURI CIRCUS WITH THE STAFF THERE TOO

RESCUE NARUMI AND MASARU!! EDITION

by Ufujita Kazuhirou and assistants

I SEE. ACTUALLY, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO HELP OUT IN A MANGA MYSELF!
FUJITA-SAN, PLEASE PUT US INTO KARAKURI CIRCUS. WE'LL COME IN REAL HANDY!

NARUMI...
DON'T WORRY! THERE'S STILL THE LONG-LEGGED CLOWN!
AHHH, WE'RE DEAD! WE'RE GONNA DIE...!



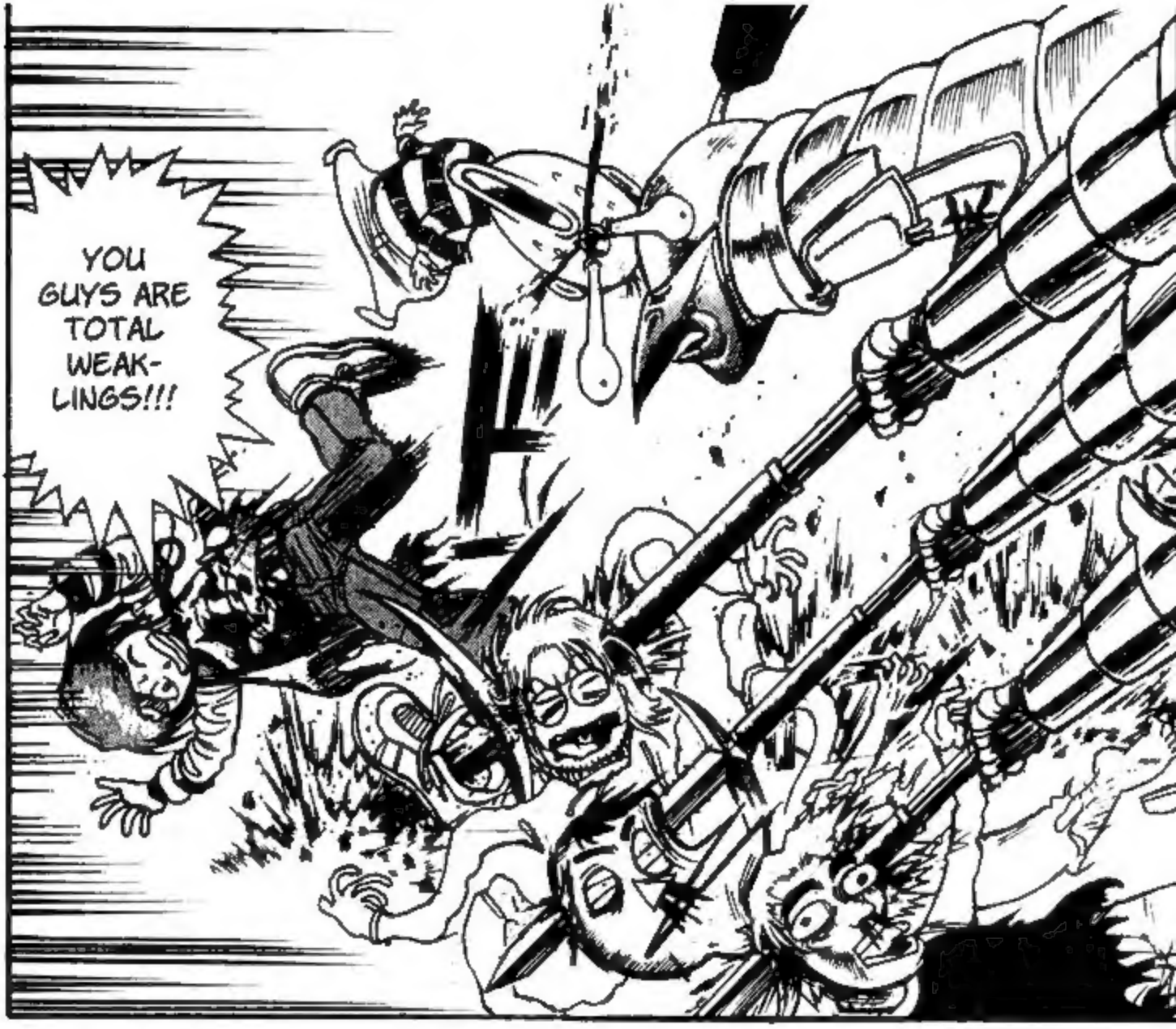
YOU WERE RIGHT THERE RUNNING AWAY WITH US, FUJITA-SAN...!
ビ・ビッ
YOU WERE JUST THINKING OF HOW TO SAVE YOUR-SELVES!
YOU WERE USE-LESS!

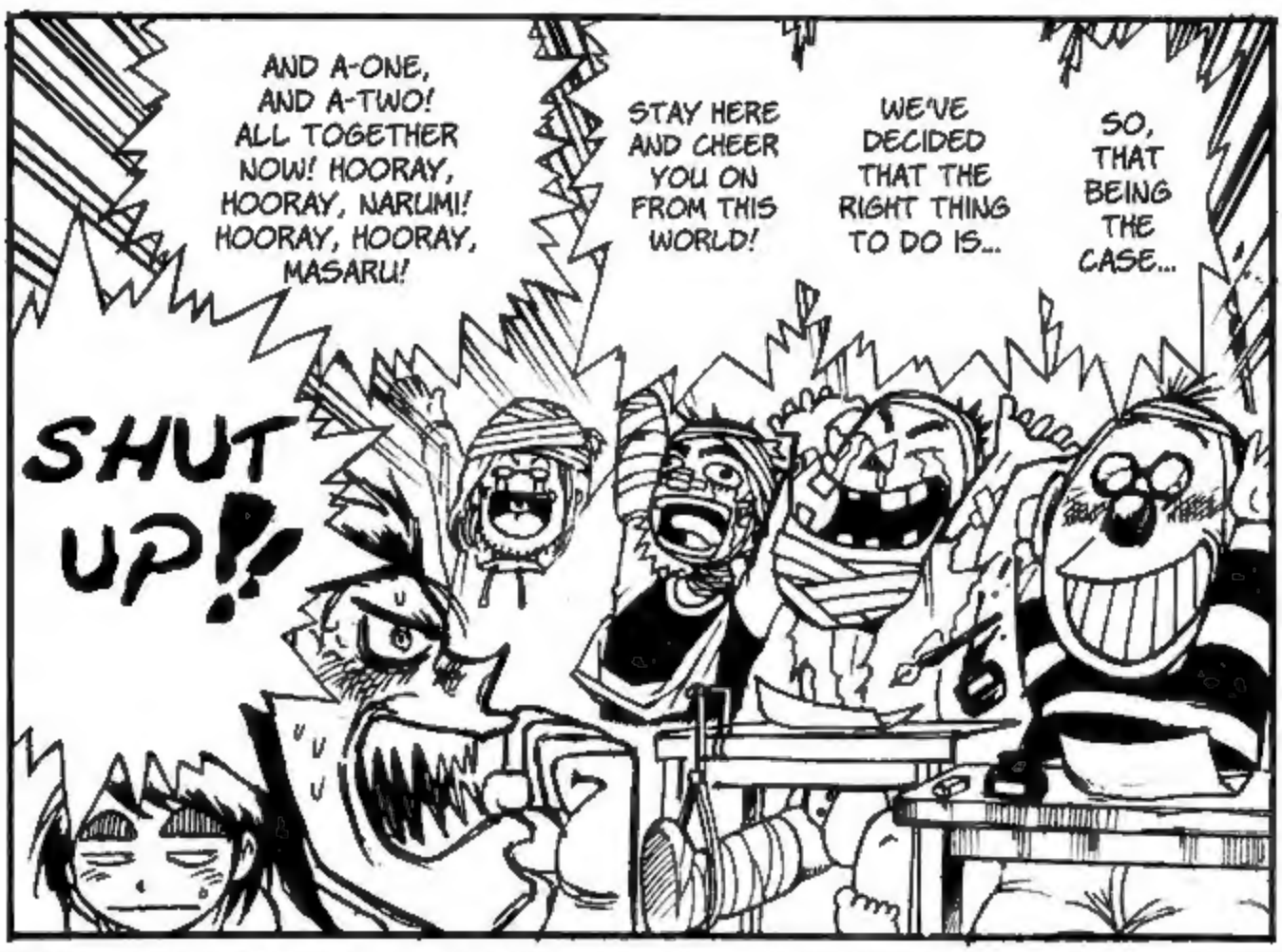
HEADBAND: CHARGE!

NICK !!
THAT ISN'T HOW IT GOES!
DO NOT BE AFRAID, ELEONORE.
MAITRE GUY...
ゴトトン
ガタン
...NOT!!
Are you prone to illness...?
You're the illness here.
WELL SAID, NEW-COMER TOMMY! LET'S GO!
SENPAI! FUJITA-SAN! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?! WE'RE HERE TO SAVE MASARU!!
YOU'RE SO UGLY, JOHNNY !!
A total dog!
ガキョン
NO, TOMMY... YOU TALK A GOOD GAME, BUT..
THE FACT THAT YOU ARE HERE MEANS THAT YOU WISH TO LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF- AM I CORRECT?

SO THEN... YOU GUYS ARE...!
THAT'S RIGHT! EVEN IF IT COSTS US OUR LIVES!!
PLEASE BEAR WITNESS TO OUR BATTLE!
WE'RE GONNA PRO-TECT YA!!
NEVER FEAR, MASA-RU!!

DIE!




AND A-ONE, AND A-TWO! ALL TOGETHER NOW! HOORAY, HOORAY, NARUMI! HOORAY, HOORAY, MASARU!
STAY HERE AND CHEER YOU ON FROM THIS WORLD!
WE'VE DECIDED THAT THE RIGHT THING TO DO IS...
SO, THAT BEING THE CASE...
SHUT UP!!

THAT WAS PRETTY LAME. SORRY. SEE YOU IN VOLUME 23!

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

NOTES:

Sadayoshi starts off referring to the Download in the past tense because he intends this to be an explanation of Masaru's present situation. **On page 4**, he starts using the future tense because he's explaining the specific actions he intends to perform. The Download has been completed by the time Masaru listens to the recording. He's not being expected to surgically implant a chip in his own head.

 # pg. 6: The name Sadayoshi uses for these three puppets is a new one, 懸糸傀儡, *kenshi kugutsu:* distance + thread + a word referring specifically to puppets that are somehow controlled. 人形 (*ningyou*, human + shape) is the word most commonly used, which covers both unmoving dolls and puppets that move by any means, whether by strings or by *karakuri* clockwork. The French/English word marionette (マリオネット, *marionetto*) is used for the Shirogane's puppets, and the kanji used beneath the furigana is 操り人形 (*ayatsuri ningyou*, manipulated doll/puppet).

The words on the truck imply that it belongs to some kind of business. I considered Kuroga Puppetry, Ltd., or Kuroga Puppet Shop, but I felt like both options made too much of a leap about the business's size.

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Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.

からくりサーカス㉒

少年サンデーコミックス

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